

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 DOE-11 SOE-02 OES-07
ACDA-12 NRC-05 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 EB-08 DODE-00 SP-02 CEQ-01
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DRAFTED BY IO/SCT: ADJILLSON:GB
APPROVED BY IO: DHCOHN
S/AS:PFARLEY
DOE:RSLAWSON(SUBS)
OES/NET:JBORIGHT
ACDA/NP:RROCHLIN(SUBS)
IO/SCT:JPTREVITHICK
NRC:RHAUBER(SUBS)
-----083265 180057Z /75
O 180018Z FEB 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 043196

USIAEA

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:IAEA, AORG, TECH, PARM

SUBJECT:FEBRUARY BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING: US DRAFT
RESOLUTION ON SSIR

REF.: VIENNA 1354

1. MISSION AUTHORIZED TO REQUEST INSCRIPTION OF RESOLUTION ON SSIR ON AGENDA FOR FEBRUARY BOARD.
2. DEPT REALIZES FROM MISSION REPORTING THAT THE OUTLOOK

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FOR ACTION BY THE BOARD TO MAKE THE SSIR A GENERAL CONFERENCE DOCUMENT IS NOT PROMISING. HOWEVER, DEPT BELIEVES THAT IT WOULD BE A MISTAKE NOT TO TABLE THIS RESOLUTION AND TO SEEK A DEFINITIVE ANSWER ON THIS QUESTION OF WHETHER THE BOARD WISHES TO RESTRICT DISTRIBUTION OF THE SSIR AND WITHHOLD IT FROM PUBLICATION. IF THE BOARD DISCUSSION DEVELOPS WITH A NUMBER OF STATES ADVOCATING RELEASE AND A SIGNIFICANT

NUMBER OPPOSING IT, WE WOULD LIKE THE CHAIRMAN TO MAKE IT CLEAR IN HIS SUMMATION THAT IN ABSENCE OF CONSENSUS, THE BOARD DOES NOT AUTHORIZE THE PUBLICATION OF THE SSIR AS A GENERAL CONFERENCE DOCUMENT AND WISHES IT NOT TO BE MADE PUBLIC. WE DO NOT WANT AN AMBIGUOUS SITUATION TO REMAIN FOLLOWING THE CHAIRMAN'S SUMMATION. MISSION REQUESTED TO MAKE THIS POINT PRIVATELY TO THE CHAIRMAN.

3. SUGGESTED GUIDANCE FOLLOWS FOR PRESENTATION OF OUR PROPOSAL TO THE BOARD:

BEGIN TEXT

THE US GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS THE SSIR TO BE AN IMPORTANT MILESTONE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL SAFEGUARDS. IT PROVIDES, FOR THE FIRST TIME, A COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS OF THE PROGRESS AND PROBLEMS OF THE IAEA'S SAFEGUARDS SYSTEM. AS SUCH, WE HOPE THAT SUBSEQUENT REPORTS WILL REMAIN AS CANDID WHILE ALSO DEMONSTRATING GENUINE PROGRESS TOWARD RECTIFICATION OF DEFICIENCIES THAT ARE POINTED OUT IN THE SSIR. WE BELIEVE THAT IF THE AGENCY AND ITS MEMBER STATES WORK ACTIVELY TO CORRECT PROBLEMS IN SAFEGUARDS IMPLEMENTATION, AND IF THESE CORRECTIVE ACTIONS ARE CLEARLY DOCUMENTED IN THE SSIR, THE CREDIBILITY OF THE AGENCY'S SAFEGUARDS SYSTEM WILL BE ENHANCED AS WELL AS THE SECURITY OF ALL NATIONS AND THE PROSPECTS FOR IMPROVED NUCLEAR COOPERATION WILL BE INCREASED.

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THE PURPOSE OF THIS RESOLUTION (TO MAKE THE SSIR A GENERAL CONFERENCE DOCUMENT) IS TO CONTRIBUTE TO THIS PROCESS. THE US GOVERNMENT STRONGLY SUPPORTS THE INTERNATIONAL EFFORT TO STRENGTHEN IAEA SAFEGUARDS AND HAS MADE A NUMBER OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO THIS END. BY RELEASING THE SSIR PUBLICLY, THE BOARD CAN DEMONSTRATE TO THE WORLD AT LARGE THAT AN HONEST EFFORT IS BEING MADE BY THE AGENCY TO IDENTIFY ITS OWN PROBLEMS AND TO INSTITUTE ITS OWN CORRECTIVE ACTIONS. WHILE WE ALL REALIZE THAT MANY TECHNICAL AND POLITICAL PROBLEMS REMAIN IN THE EFFORT TO UPGRADE THE INTERNATIONAL SAFEGUARDS SYSTEM, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT AS THAT SYSTEM GROWS, IT MUST CONTINUE TO ENJOY THE WIDESPREAD PUBLIC CONFIDENCE THAT ASSURES THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY THAT NUCLEAR POWER WILL ONLY SERVE ITS INTENDED PEACEFUL PURPOSES. END TEXT. VANCE

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